

A proposed reservoir in the Fens

Phase three consultation –
associated water infrastructure
proposals



October 2025



The images and illustrations in this document are indicative and aim to convey how the design might appear once it has matured over time. The proposed design remains subject to further development, informed by consultation feedback and ongoing assessments.

Contents

Water sources and supply points	6-7
Our latest proposals	8-31
How it all fits together	8-9
Phase three infrastructure proposals	10-11
Manea to Downham Market	12-15
Peterborough, Stanground and Whittlesey	16-19
Between Chatteris, March and Manea	20-23
Chatteris to Bluntisham, near Earith	24-27
Swavesey to Madingley	28-31
Our approach to constructing the associated water infrastructure	32-41
Constructing the associated water infrastructure	32
Our approach to construction	33
Phase three construction and transport proposals	34-35
Constructing the pipelines	36-37
Considering the landscape	38-39
Construction compounds and working areas	40
Our approach to construction traffic	41
Our phase three consultation	42
Have your say	43
What happens next	44
A guide to our consultation materials	45



Our documents

We've published a series of documents outlining our updated proposals for the project, including two brochures: one focused on the main reservoir site, and another – this brochure – detailing the infrastructure we would need to build to get water to and from the reservoir and into supply.

For details of these documents and the others available for this consultation, please see **page 45**.



Have your say

Throughout this document, you'll find boxes like this one, highlighting where you can share your feedback on specific elements. Simply follow the prompts to let us know what you think. Our **feedback form** can be found online: **fensreservoir.co.uk**

Securing water supplies for future generations and creating a place where people, nature and water come together



Anglian Water working in partnership with Cambridge Water is proposing a new reservoir in the Cambridgeshire Fens that will secure water supplies to meet the needs of future generations, while helping to protect our most precious environments. The new reservoir could supply enough water for up to a quarter of a million homes every year.

The reservoir will store water so it's on tap when we need it, meaning less water is taken from sensitive sources, helping us to protect and restore the environment.

The reservoir will help to ensure water supply for decades to come and contribute to our long term goals of ensuring the East of England is resilient to the risks of drought and flooding.

Our vision for the project goes beyond just building a reservoir. We want to create a place where people, nature and water come together. That means creating space for wildlife, such as wetlands, alongside enabling new recreational and educational facilities and natural places for people to explore. It also means creating new jobs and providing opportunities for local businesses and tourism.

The proposed reservoir is located between Chatteris and March, near to Doddington, Wimblington and Manea. Since our last phase of consultation, we've been working hard to develop our proposals for its design and for the infrastructure needed to get water to and from the reservoir.

Our latest proposals include:

- **updated proposals for the main reservoir site**, including illustrations showing how the reservoir could feature in the landscape and connections to nearby communities, and the features it could include for people and nature
- **proposals for the water sources and water supply infrastructure** we need to transfer water from sources to the reservoir, treat it and supply it to Anglian Water and Cambridge Water customers
- **how we could deliver the project** including our early thinking on the construction phase and transport options
- **our approach to the environment** including, how we're assessing the project's potential impacts, what we've learned to date, and the steps we could take to limit any impacts both during construction and operation
- **early plans on providing power for the reservoir**, including our current proposals for renewable technology



Find out more

Scan the QR code to watch our film on why the reservoir is needed.



Providing enough
water
for around
250,000
homes
every year



Reducing
demands
on existing water
sources to help
protect the
environment



Securing a
reliable
supply
ensuring water for
future generations amid
a changing climate



An exciting
destination
that could
draw up to



400,000
visitors
every year

Water sources and supply points

Since our phase two consultation, we've done more work to understand where the water to fill the reservoir could come from and how we can transfer the treated water to supply homes and businesses.

This includes carrying out further assessments to understand how much water is available from each source, alongside engagement with specialist stakeholders including the Environment Agency and Middle Level Commissioners. Whilst this work has progressed, there will be further work to refine our raw water source proposals as we gain more information about the characteristics of the river systems.



Our sources for the water

The Ouse Washes (River Delph)

Using water from the Ouse Washes when it's available and transferring it via pipelines to the reservoir.

We're exploring whether to use the Ouse Washes, the River Great Ouse or potentially both as sources. We're carrying out further studies to help decide our preferred option.



The River Great Ouse

Using flows from the River Great Ouse and transferring these to the reservoir via a pipeline.

We're exploring whether to use the River Great Ouse, the Ouse Washes or potentially both as sources. We're carrying out further studies to help decide our preferred option.



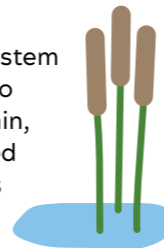
The River Nene and its Counter Drain

Using water from the River Nene when it has available flows, supported by its Counter Drain. This would include a bypass around Stanground Lock to transfer flows from the Nene into the Middle Level System for transfer via existing open channels to the Sixteen Foot Drain for pumping into the reservoir.



The Middle Level System

Using water from the Middle Level System when it's available and pumping it into the reservoir via the Sixteen Foot Drain, reducing the amount of water pumped away to sea and the energy and costs this involves.



Our points for supplying water

Bexwell

(Anglian Water connection)

A new treated water pipeline and service reservoir to store the water before it is transferred to customers' taps via our network of supply pipes.

Bluntisham

(Cambridge Water connection)

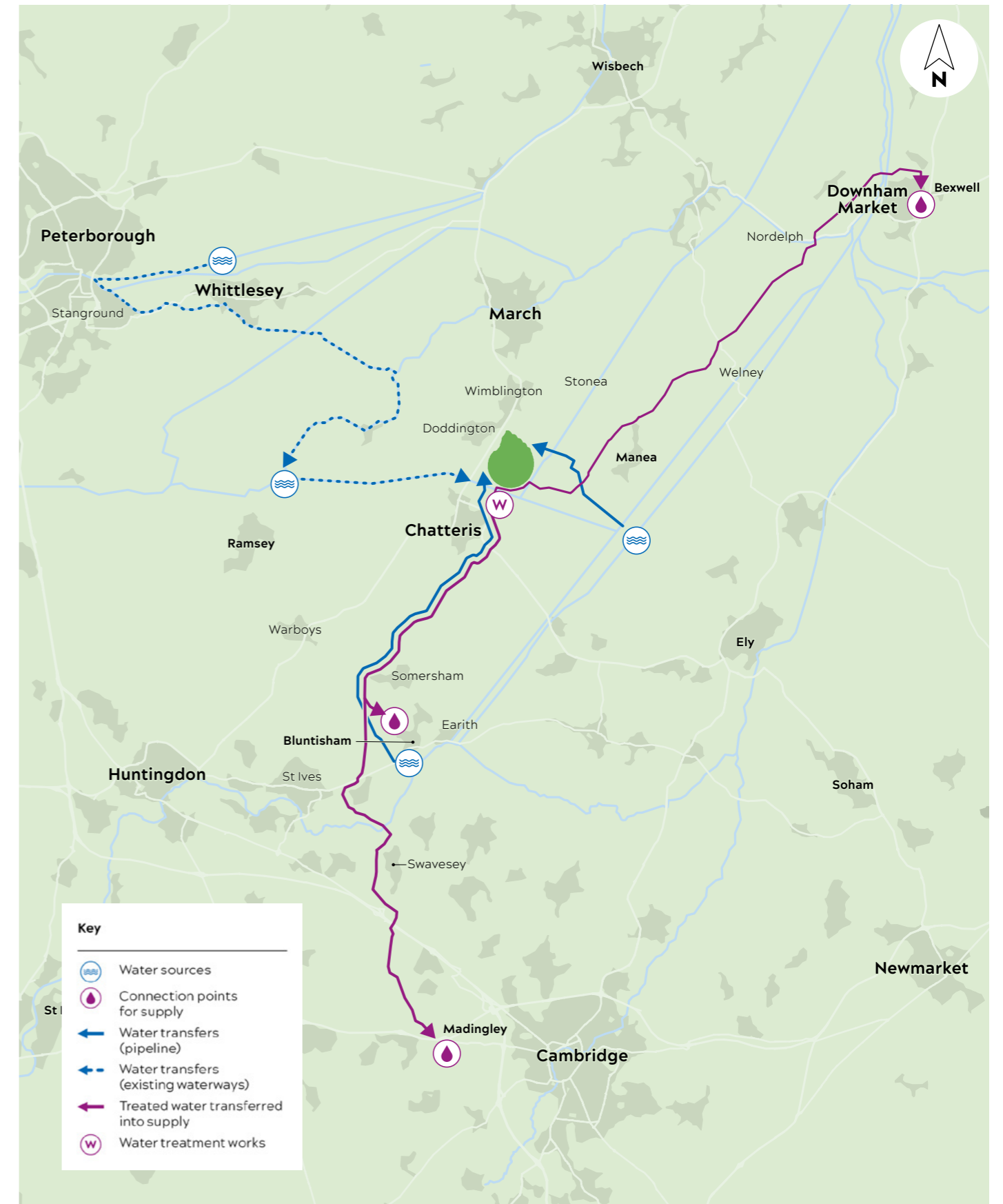
We now know that additional water storage isn't needed at this location. We would still connect to Cambridge Water's network here, but we have discounted the need to construct a new service reservoir.

Madingley

(Cambridge Water connection)

A new treated water pipeline and service reservoir to store the water before it is transferred to customers' taps via Cambridge Water's network of supply pipes.

This illustrative map shows the water sources we think we would use, how we could transfer it to the reservoir, and then where the treated water would be sent into supply.



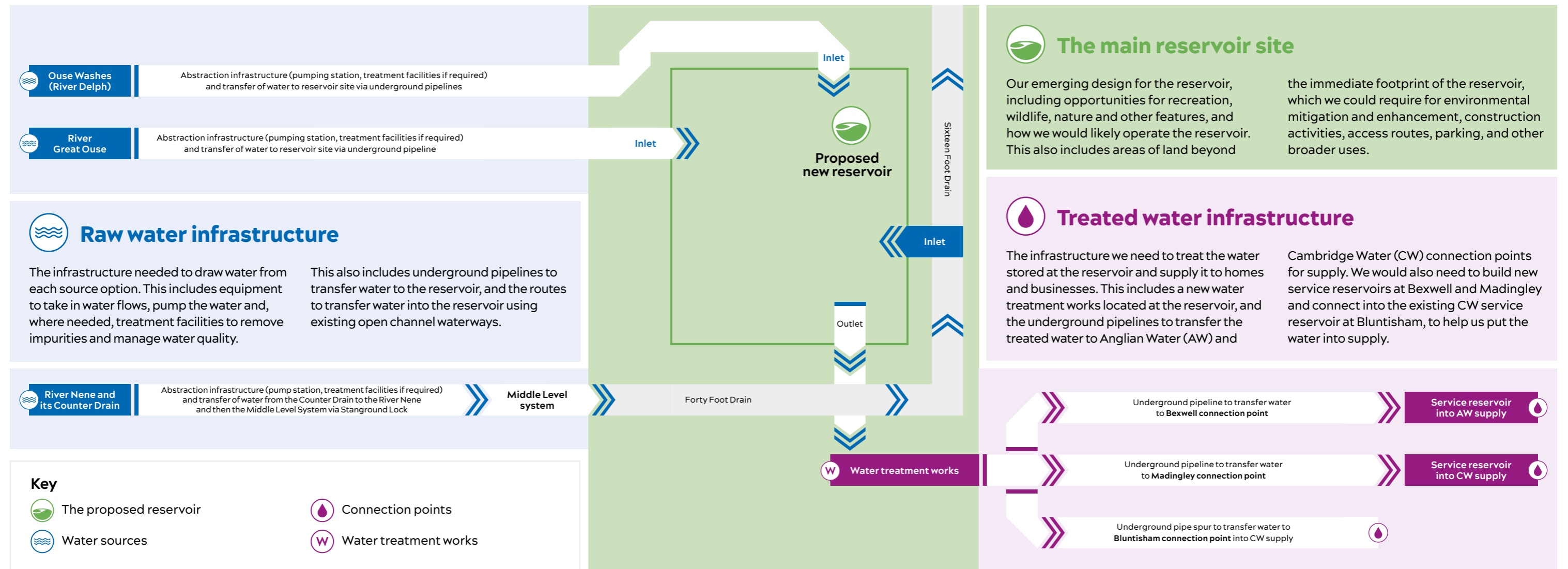
How it all fits together

This diagram shows what we're proposing, and how it all fits together to create a new strategic water resource that connects into the public water supply system.

Our proposals for all the associated water infrastructure are in blue and purple, and are explained in this document.

Everything in green is about the main reservoir site itself and the equipment we need to construct and operate it.

All these elements are explained in another document – our **main reservoir site brochure**.



i Our developing proposals for the main reservoir site

To learn more about our developing proposals for the main reservoir site and our thinking on how we could construct and operate it, please see our **main reservoir site brochure**.

Phase three infrastructure proposals

Our latest proposals for the associated water infrastructure, based on work we've done since our previous consultation and considering the feedback we received.

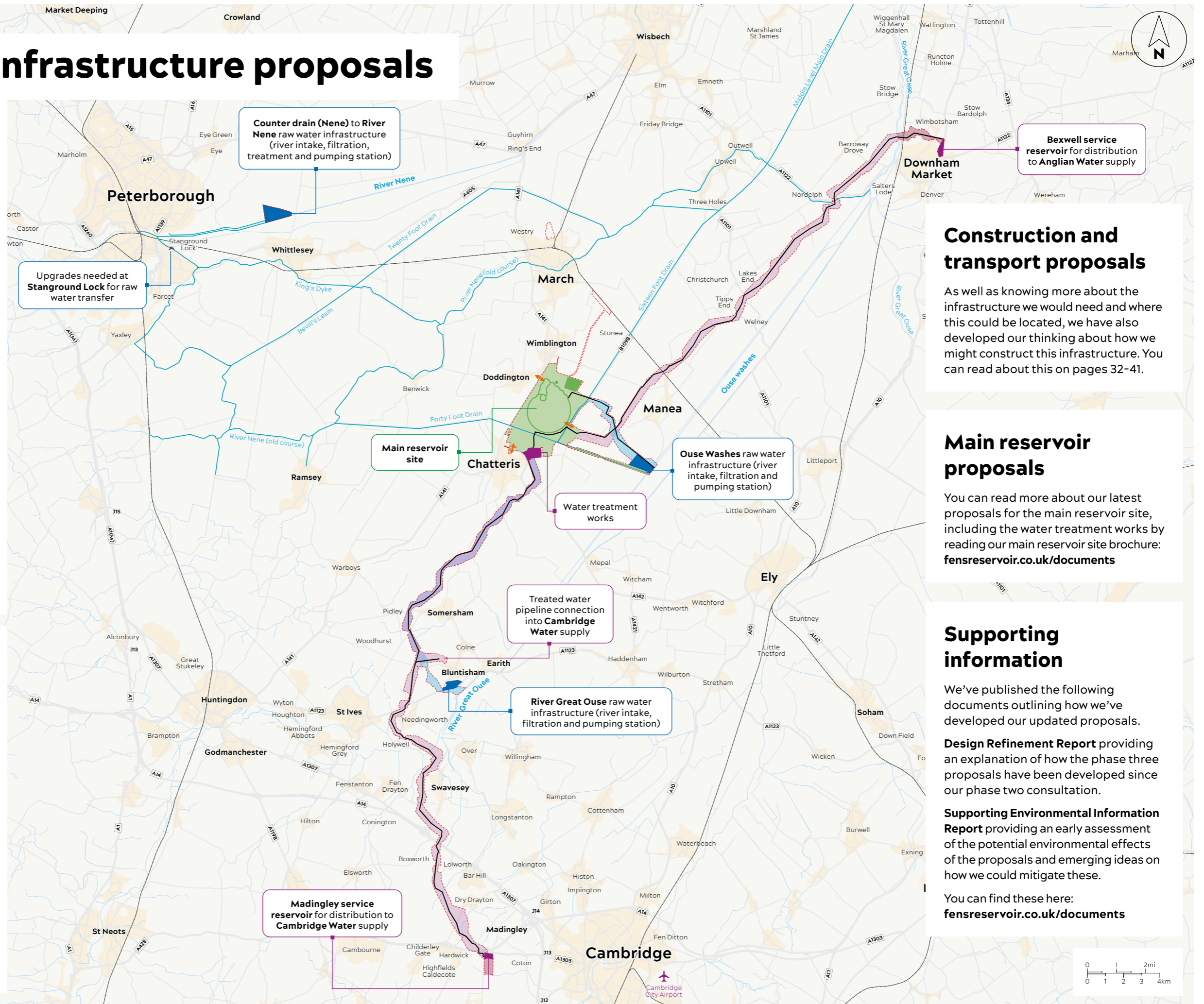
We'll be continuing to develop these proposals further based on technical studies, assessments and feedback we receive.

Find out more about what's proposed near you, and what's changed since our phase two consultation:

- **Manea to Downham Market** – pages 12-15
- **Peterborough, Stanground and Whittlesey** – pages 16-19
- **Chatteris, March and Manea (near Wimblington and Doddington)** – pages 20-23
- **Chatteris to Bluntisham, near Earith** – pages 24-27
- **Swavesey to Madingley** – pages 28-31

Key

- Our phase three indicative project boundary (including additional land areas identified for construction purposes)
- Raw water infrastructure area
- Raw water pipeline corridor
- Shared corridor for raw water and treated water pipelines
- Treated water infrastructure areas
- Treated water pipeline corridor
- Best engineering route for raw and treated water pipelines
- Treated water overflow pipe corridor
- Main reservoir site area (including land identified for environmental mitigation)
- Phase three reservoir proposals
- Indicative areas for power supply, renewable energy and operational equipment
- Proposed locations for access to and from the reservoir
- Existing Middle Level channels



Construction and transport proposals

As well as knowing more about the infrastructure we would need and where this could be located, we have also developed our thinking about how we might construct this infrastructure. You can read about this on pages 32-41.

Main reservoir proposals

You can read more about our latest proposals for the main reservoir site, including the water treatment works by reading our main reservoir site brochure: fensreservoir.co.uk/documents

Supporting information

We've published the following documents outlining how we've developed our updated proposals.

Design Refinement Report providing an explanation of how the phase three proposals have been developed since our phase two consultation.

Supporting Environmental Information Report providing an early assessment of the potential environmental effects of the proposals and emerging ideas on how we could mitigate these.

You can find these here: fensreservoir.co.uk/documents

Manea to Downham Market

Our proposals in this area include a pipeline that would transfer treated water from the water treatment works at the main site to a new service reservoir at Bexwell, where it would connect to the existing water supply network.

Treated water pipeline

Overview

The pipeline starts at the water treatment works and travels underneath the main reservoir site before heading north east to the proposed location of the service reservoir at Bexwell.

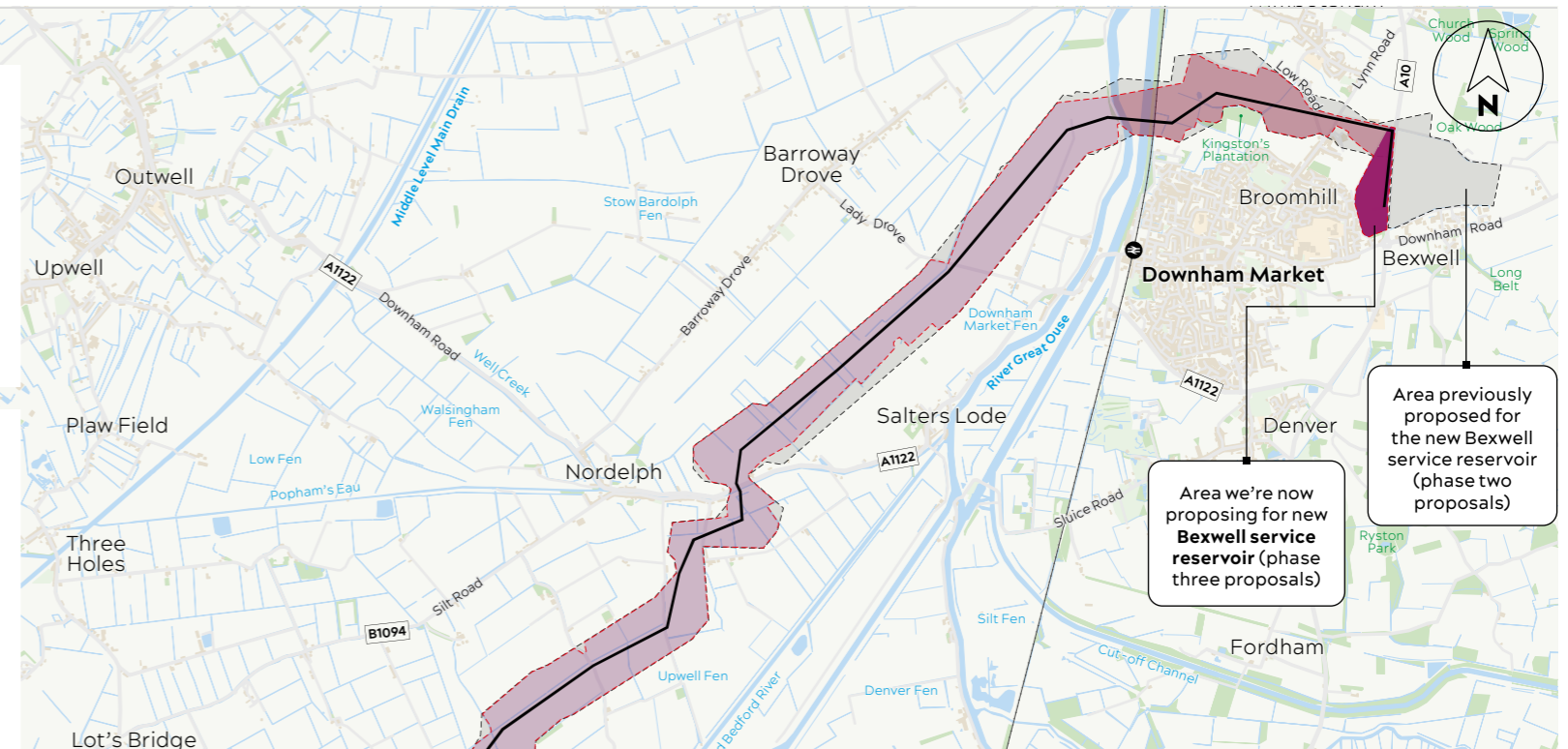
The pipeline corridor shown on this map – within which the pipeline could be located – is up to 500 metres wide.

The pipeline:

- would be approximately 32km long
- would have an indicative diameter of: 0.8 to 1.2 metres

What's new?

- We've developed a new proposed pipeline corridor to the south east of the main reservoir site to avoid the area we've now proposed for wetlands, as well as priority habitats and local wildlife sites. The revised route also has a lower likelihood of encountering archaeological remains.
- We've refined our original pipeline corridor north of Downham Market to connect to the revised area for the proposed Bexwell service reservoir.
- We've indicatively identified the best route for the pipe within the corridor based on engineering assessments.



New service reservoir

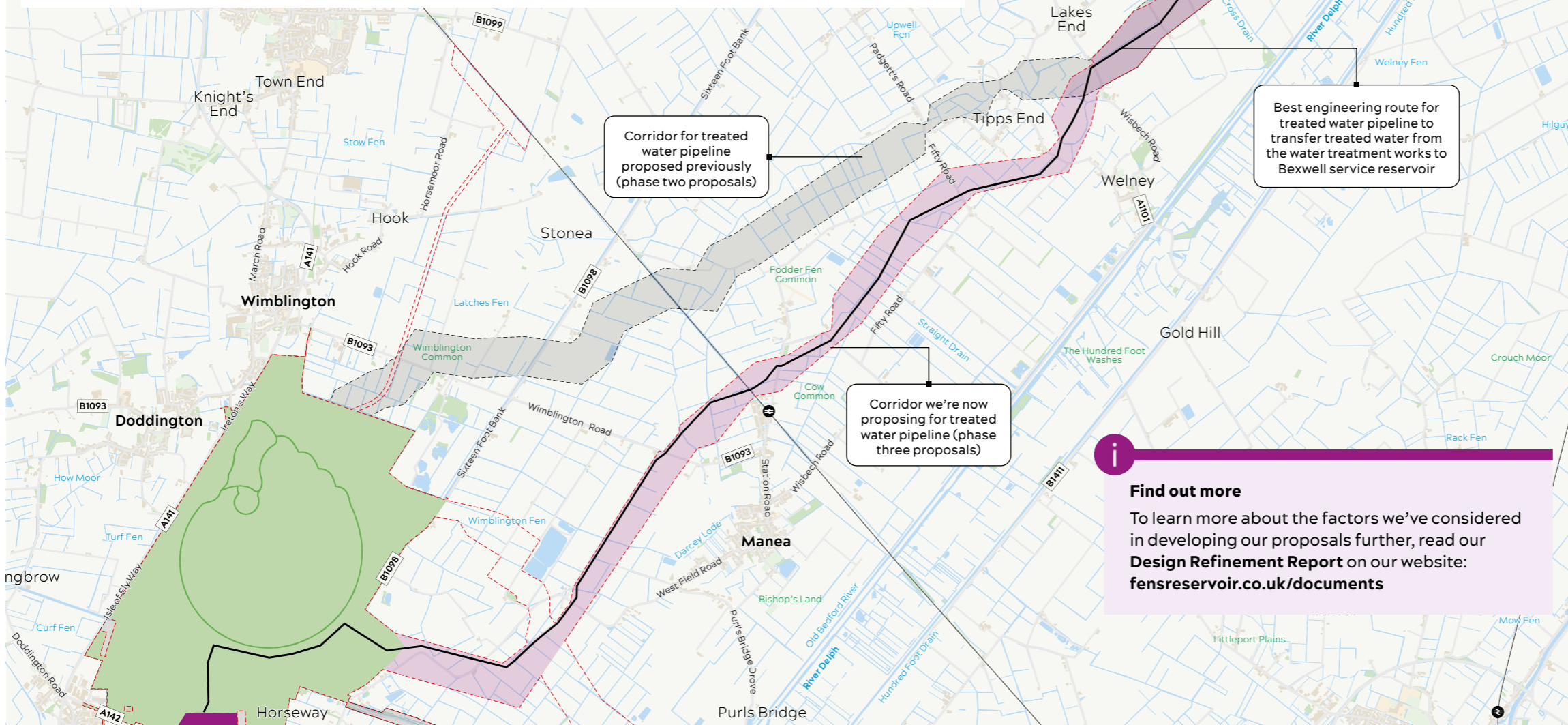
Overview

Service reservoirs provide localised storage to ensure treated water is available to customers when needed. This helps to manage daily changes in water demand. We've identified an area for the new Bexwell service reservoir (to help supply Anglian Water customers) near Broomhill.

The proposed service reservoir would have capacity of approximately 50MI and the land area we've identified within which the service reservoir could be located is approximately 15.5 hectares.

What's new?

We're proposing to co-locate the new service reservoir at Bexwell with an existing service reservoir in this area, west of the A10. This location would enable easier integration with the existing Anglian Water network and removes the need to cross the A10, helping to reduce construction complexity and minimise potential disruption.



Find out more
To learn more about the factors we've considered in developing our proposals further, read our **Design Refinement Report** on our website: fensreservoir.co.uk/documents

Tell us what you think
We're keen to hear your views on the land areas identified – tell us what you think by completing our **feedback form**: fensreservoir.co.uk



What our proposals will involve

The pipeline

The pipeline would be installed underground so won't be visible, other than some above-the-ground valves and operational access points. After the pipeline is installed, we would return the land to its original condition.

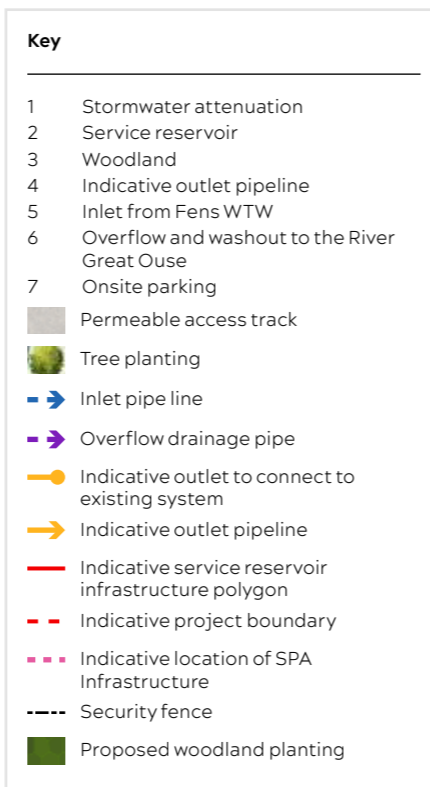
You can read more about how we would reinstate land after pipeline construction on **pages 38-39**. The land over the pipelines would need

to remain undeveloped, and a right of access would be required to ensure safe access for long-term maintenance of the pipeline.

You can read more about how we would construct the pipeline on **pages 36-37**.



Image showing the construction of our Strategic Pipeline Alliance project.



Find out more
 Read our **Supporting Environmental Information Report** to find out more about what we've learned about the area we've identified for this equipment, the work we're doing to identify and assess any impacts, and how we could manage these: fensreservoir.co.uk/documents

The service reservoir

The service reservoir at Bexwell would be a partly buried tank that stores treated water, ready for supply to customers. It would be built close to the existing local supply network (which is being enhanced by our Strategic Pipeline Alliance work) to provide water when needed.

The design of the service reservoir is still being developed. We anticipate that it would be fully enclosed and made of concrete, to keep the water clean and safe to drink. It would be located within a fenced compound and also include an overflow area with appropriate drainage, allowing for the

safe release of water in the event of needing to drain the service reservoir.

We'll be carrying out assessments to consider how the service reservoir could fit within the landscape, and what we can do to make sure it's sensitive to its surroundings.

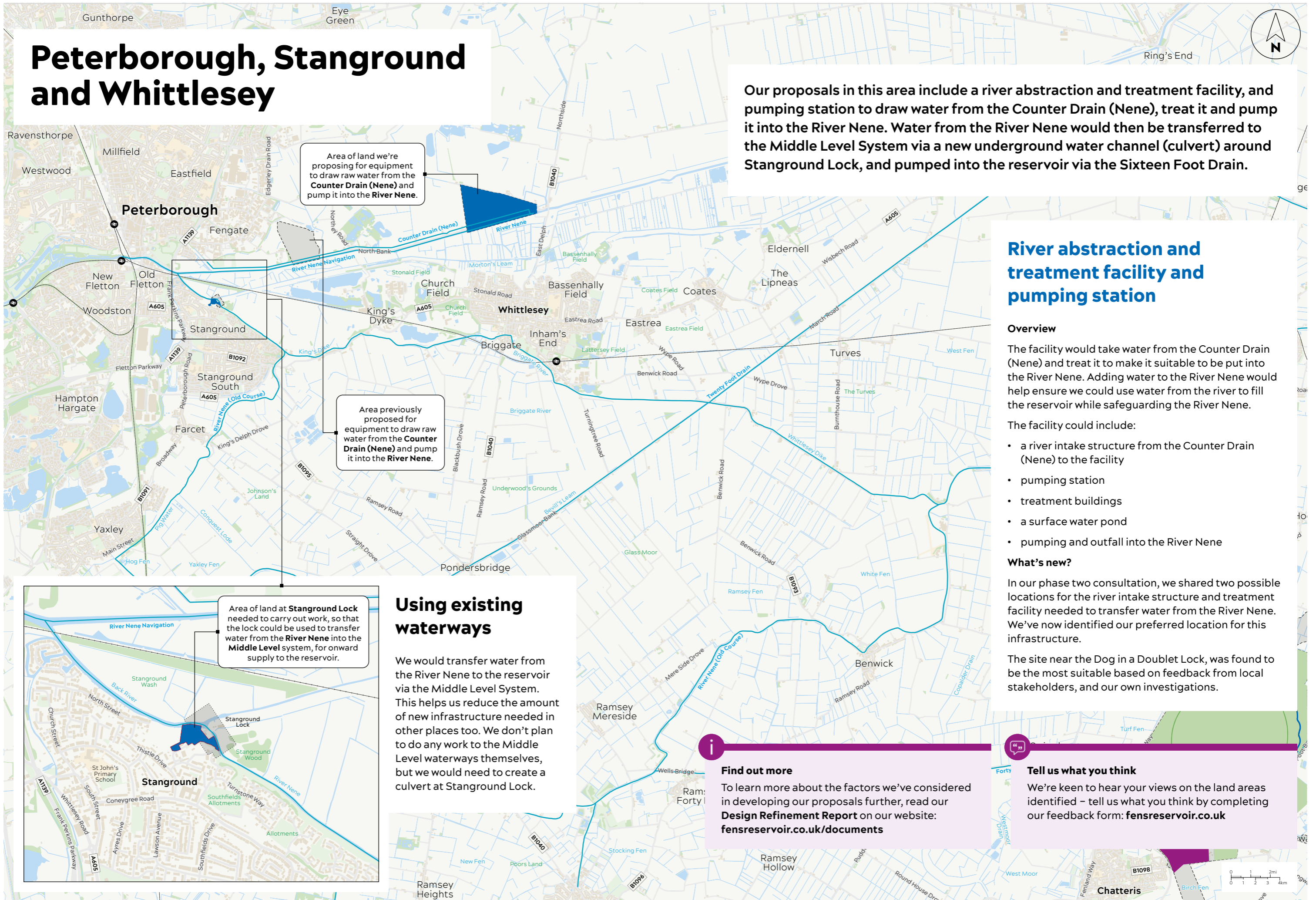
This may include:

- sculpting of earth and landscaping to provide screening
- locating the operational features within the compound to reduce visual impacts for any nearby properties



Indicative plan, within the identified area, for storing treated water for supply to Anglian Water customers, at Bexwell.

Peterborough, Stanground and Whittlesey



Our proposals in this area include a river abstraction and treatment facility, and pumping station to draw water from the Counter Drain (Nene), treat it and pump it into the River Nene. Water from the River Nene would then be transferred to the Middle Level System via a new underground water channel (culvert) around Stanground Lock, and pumped into the reservoir via the Sixteen Foot Drain.

River abstraction and treatment facility and pumping station

Overview

The facility would take water from the Counter Drain (Nene) and treat it to make it suitable to be put into the River Nene. Adding water to the River Nene would help ensure we could use water from the river to fill the reservoir while safeguarding the River Nene.

The facility could include:

- a river intake structure from the Counter Drain (Nene) to the facility
- pumping station
- treatment buildings
- a surface water pond
- pumping and outfall into the River Nene

What's new?

In our phase two consultation, we shared two possible locations for the river intake structure and treatment facility needed to transfer water from the River Nene. We've now identified our preferred location for this infrastructure.

The site near the Dog in a Doublet Lock, was found to be the most suitable based on feedback from local stakeholders, and our own investigations.

Area of land we're proposing for equipment to draw raw water from the Counter Drain (Nene) and pump it into the River Nene.

Area previously proposed for equipment to draw raw water from the Counter Drain (Nene) and pump it into the River Nene.

Area of land at Stanground Lock needed to carry out work, so that the lock could be used to transfer water from the River Nene into the Middle Level system, for onward supply to the reservoir.

Using existing waterways

We would transfer water from the River Nene to the reservoir via the Middle Level System. This helps us reduce the amount of new infrastructure needed in other places too. We don't plan to do any work to the Middle Level waterways themselves, but we would need to create a culvert at Stanground Lock.

Find out more
To learn more about the factors we've considered in developing our proposals further, read our **Design Refinement Report** on our website: fensreservoir.co.uk/documents

Tell us what you think
We're keen to hear your views on the land areas identified – tell us what you think by completing our feedback form: fensreservoir.co.uk

What our proposals might involve

We would transfer flows from the River Nene, bolstered by additional water from the Counter Drain (Nene), into the Middle Level System. Water from the Middle Level System would then be pumped into the reservoir.

Drawing water from the Counter Drain (Nene)

The area we've chosen for this facility sits between North Bank road and Levitt's Drove – both of which are on higher ground than the site itself – and is close to some existing farmsteads. We have designed the facility to blend into the surrounding landscape as much as possible and to respect the character of the local area.

The facility would be built in the southern part of the site, running parallel to the Counter Drain (Nene). This location keeps it close to existing infrastructure and away from nearby farms, homes, and Levitt's Drove, helping to minimise visual impacts and disruption.

We'll be carrying out assessments to consider how the river intake structure and treatment facility appears in the landscape, and what we could do to make sure it's sensitive to its surroundings.

This may include:

- **using scattered planting** that matches the local landscape and the history of the area
- **mirroring the existing tree planting** along Levitt's Drove to help the site blend in
- **exploring opportunities to reduce the visual impact of buildings**, such as by reducing their height by setting them lower into the ground

What does inter-catchment treatment involve?

All watercourses have a unique eco-system and moving water from one water course to another has the potential to introduce invasive species or particles that might upset the water quality.

To protect the character of the water in the River Nene, we would treat the water from the Counter Drain (Nene) before transferring it into the

River Nene using an inter-catchment treatment works.

Inter-catchment treatment involves filters and screens that remove sediment and particles that could be harmful to a different watercourse before the water is moved. Chemical treatment may also be used to neutralise contaminants or adjust water quality to meet environmental and operational standards.



For illustrative purposes only. View from Levitt's Drove of the proposed location for the river abstraction and treatment facility and pumping station.

Tell us what you think

We're keen to understand whether you have any ideas for how we might make the site work with the existing landscape – tell us what you think by completing our **feedback form**.

Key		
1	Operation buildings	Permeable access track
2	Floodgate	Woodland tree planting
3	Admin/maintenance building	Solar panel
4	Stormwater attenuation and wetland landscape	Reinforced grass surfacing
5	Arable field	Inlet pipeline
6	Crest of flood bund	Indicative outlet pipeline
7	Intake from counter drain	Indicative project boundary and indicative abstract infrastructure polygon
8	Outlet to River Nene	Security fence
9	Species rich meadows	



Indicative plan, within the identified area, for a river intake, treatment and pumping station, near the River Nene.

Between Chatteris, March and Manea

Our proposals in this area include a river intake facility near the Welches Dam pumping station. This facility would draw water from the Ouse Washes and transfer it via pipelines to the reservoir. The reservoir would also be fed with water from the River Great Ouse, near Earith, via underground pipelines.

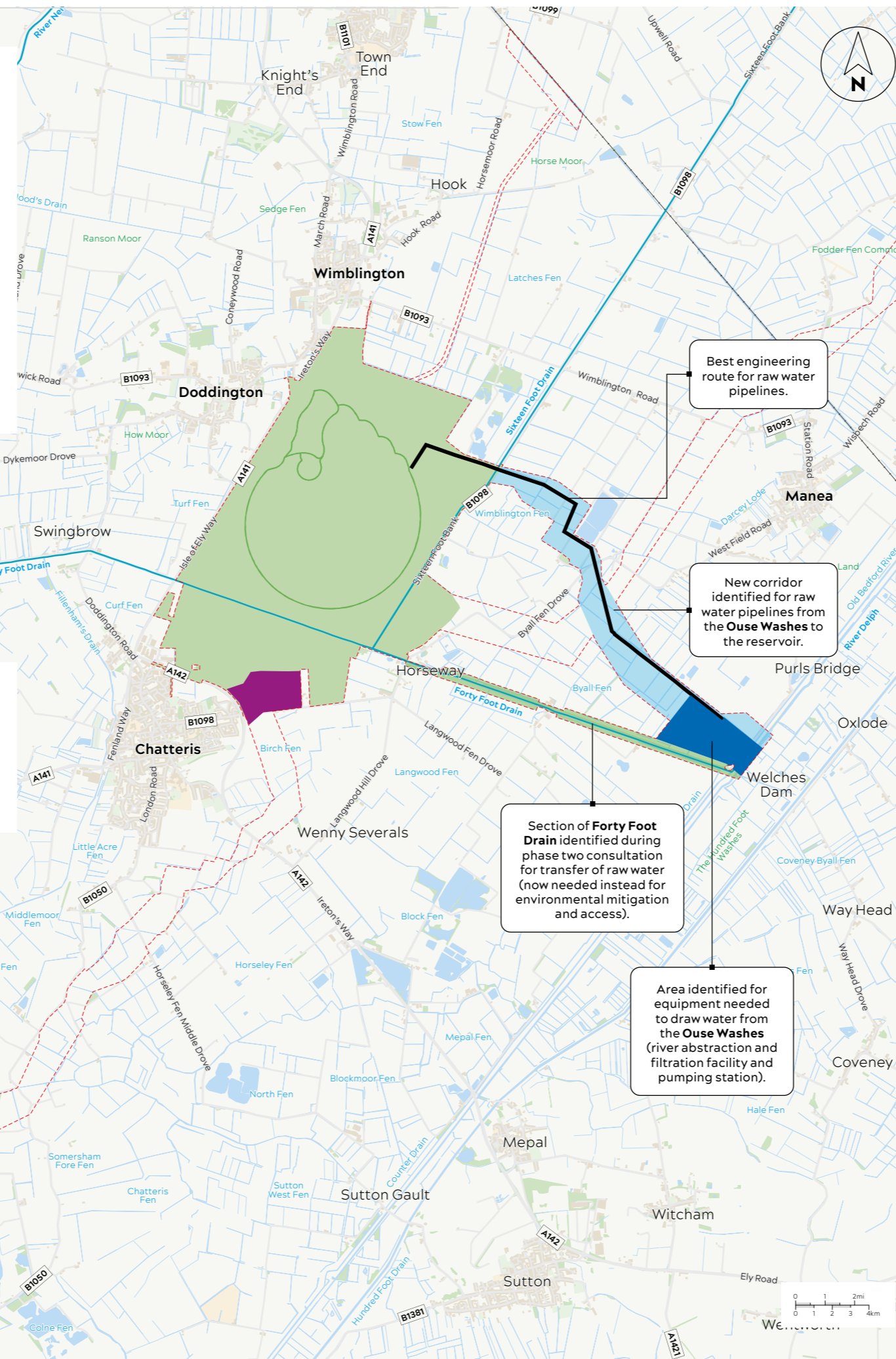
In addition, treated water transfer pipelines are proposed to carry water from the reservoir toward Bluntisham, Bexwell, and Madingley, where they would connect into the wider Anglian Water and Cambridge Water supply network. You can find out more about our treated water proposals on pages 12-15 and 24-31.

Tell us what you think

We're keen to hear your comments on our proposed plans for the infrastructure we may need to draw water from this source and transfer it to the reservoir – tell us what you think by completing our **feedback form**: fensreservoir.co.uk

Read about the main reservoir site

Find out more about our proposals for the main reservoir site, including the water treatment works, by reading our **main reservoir site brochure**.



What our proposals might involve

Since our last consultation, we've reviewed how much water we plan to transfer from the Ouse Washes – and we're now looking to increase that amount. Our assessments show that the Ouse Washes can support this, and it would provide overall benefits for the project.

Drawing water from the Ouse Washes

Since our phase two consultation and as a result of ongoing water quality assessments, we have revised how much water we think we would need to transfer from the Ouse Washes to the reservoir.

Based on our current investigations and the amount of water available, we believe pipelines could be the best option for this transfer. These pipelines would run from the intake facility north of Welches Dam pumping station to the reservoir.

Removing excess water from the Ouse Washes could unlock important benefits. For example, this is an area used by breeding birds during nesting season and for foraging in the winter. Removing water during times of high flood could help protect land needed for these important wildlife activities.

This illustration shows what the layout of the river intake, filtration facility and pumping station could be.

Our current proposal is to locate the buildings behind existing areas of trees to screen them from local properties, and the Ouse Washes Special Protection Area (SPA) habitat.

The area is part of the Ouse Washes SPA and the wider area is covered by multiple statutory nature conservation designations. As such, we need to think carefully about the design of this facility – it would need to adhere to high environmental


standards and integrate with the existing RSPB centres.

We will present more of our thinking on how the site could be accessed and what this site could look like at a future phase of consultation.

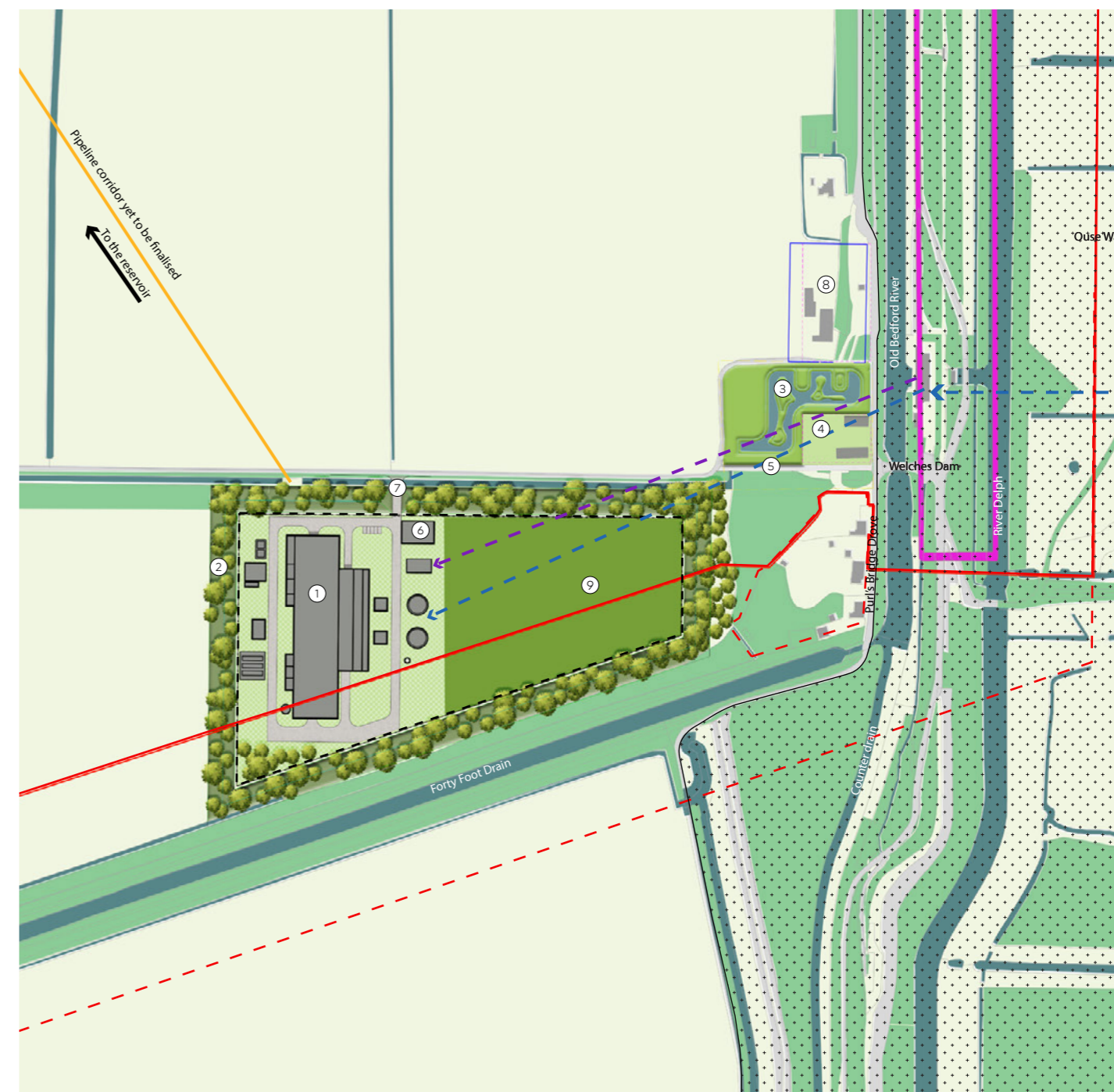


i To learn more about the factors we've considered in developing our proposals further, read our **Design Refinement Report: fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**

“ ” **Tell us what you think**
We're keen to understand your thoughts on the proposed location of our river intake and filtration facility and pumping station, and pipelines from the Ouse Washes to the reservoir – tell us what you think by completing our **feedback form**.



Key		
1	Operation buildings	Permeable access track
2	Flood bund	Woodland tree planting
3	Stormwater attenuation and wetland landscape	Solar panel
4	Indicative location of reconfigured RSPB maintenance buildings	Reinforced grass surfacing
5	New access road	Internationally and nationally designed wetland
6	Admin/maintenance building	Zone within which inlet abstraction would be located
7	Floodgate	
8	Indicative location of reconfigured RSPB visitor centre	
9	Species rich meadows	
		Inlet pipeline
		Overflow drainage pipe
		Indicative outlet pipeline
		Indicative abstract infrastructure polygon
		Indicative project boundary



Indicative plan, within the identified area, for a river intake, pumping station and treatment facilities near Welches Dam to draw raw water from the Ouse Washes.

Chatteris to Bluntisham, near Earith

Our proposals south of the main reservoir site include two pipelines: one to carry the water from the source option at the River Great Ouse to the reservoir, and one to move treated water from the water treatment works south of the reservoir to a connection point at Bluntisham, then on to the service reservoir at Madingley.

Treated water pipeline and Bluntisham connection point

Overview

The pipeline would carry treated water from the water treatment works to a connection point in Bluntisham via a spur off of the main pipeline, which would continue southwards to Madingley. Our proposal is for both raw water and treated water transfer pipelines to be placed in the same corridor and trench to help reduce potential local impacts.

This pipeline would pass through this area and then onto Swavesey and Madingley.

The pipeline corridor shown on this map – within which the pipeline could be located – is up to 500 metres wide.

Madingley pipeline:

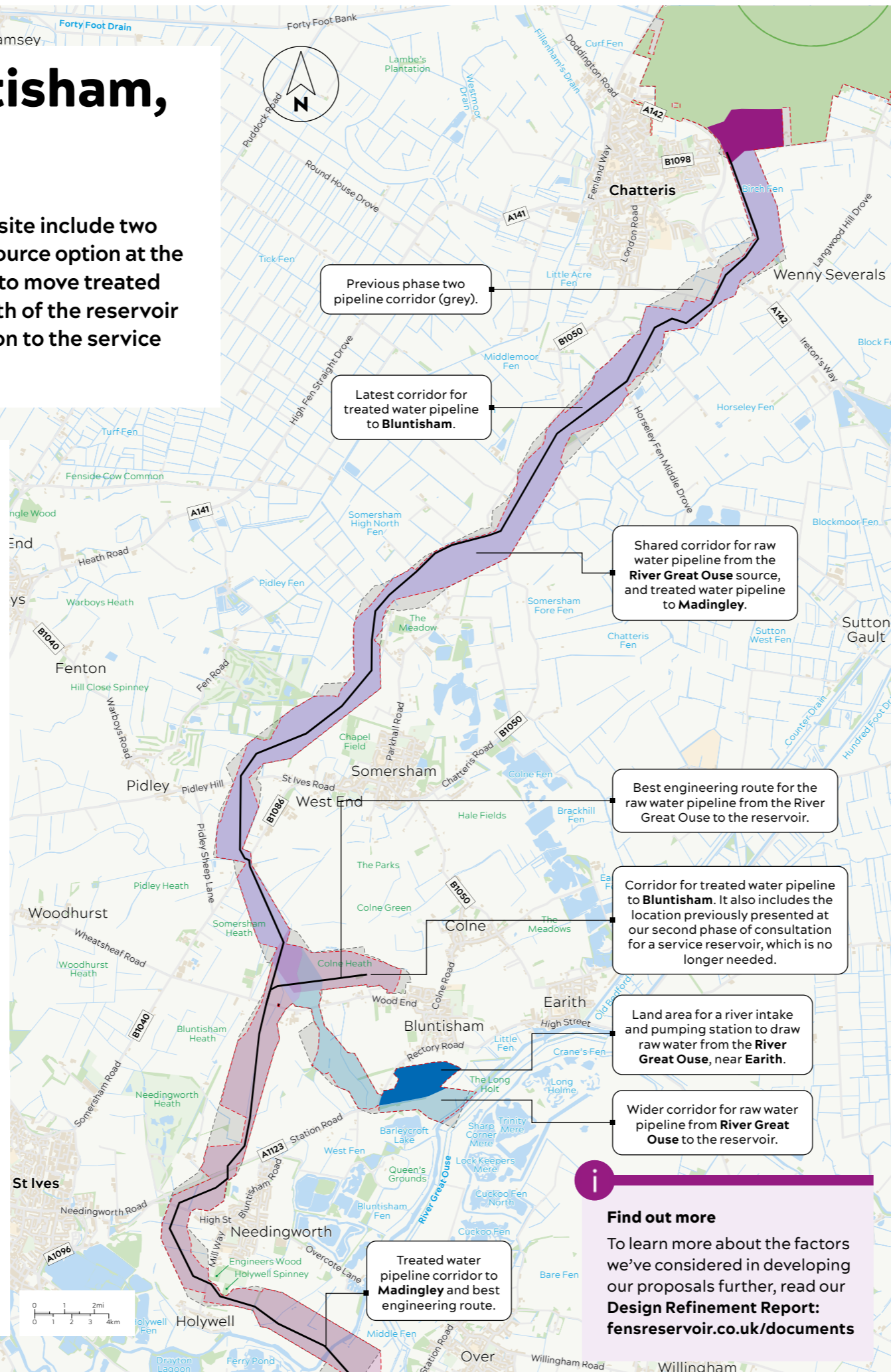
- would be approximately 35km long
- would have an indicative diameter of 0.8-1.2 metres

Bluntisham pipeline spur:

- would be approximately 2km long
- would have an indicative diameter of 0.8-1.2 metres

What's new?

- We've identified that a treated water storage facility isn't needed at Bluntisham so we're no longer proposing a service reservoir here.
- We've refined our original pipeline corridor to work with existing planning applications and environmentally sensitive areas.
- We've indicatively identified the best route for the pipe within the corridor based on engineering assessments.



Raw water transfer pipeline to reservoir

Overview

The pipeline would carry raw water from the River Great Ouse to the reservoir. Our proposal is for both raw water and treated water transfer pipelines to be placed in the same corridor and trench to help reduce potential local impacts.

The pipeline corridor shown on this map – within which the pipeline could be located – is up to 500 metres wide.

The pipeline:

- would be approximately 7km long
- would have an indicative diameter of: 1-1.5 metres

What's new?

- We've refined our original pipeline corridor to work with existing planning applications and environmentally sensitive areas.
- Identified the best location for the pipe based on engineering assessments.

River abstraction and filtration facility near Earith

Overview

The facility would take raw water from the River Great Ouse screen and filter it so it can be stored at the reservoir. The area we've identified for the facility is to the east of Station Road and north of Barleycroft Lake.

It could include:

- a river intake structure from the River Great Ouse to the facility
- pumping station
- filtration building
- administrative building
- electrical and generator compounds

What's new?

- We've refined the area we identified for the abstraction and screening facility and pumping station, as we no longer anticipate the need for an intercatchment treatment process.
- We've extended the area we could need for the facility slightly to the north, based on engineering requirements.

Find out more

To learn more about the factors we've considered in developing our proposals further, read our **Design Refinement Report:** fensreservoir.co.uk/documents

Tell us what you think

We're keen to hear your comments on our proposed plans for the infrastructure we may need – tell us what you think by completing our **feedback form**.



What our proposals involve

We may need to transfer water from the River Great Ouse to the reservoir, so we can store it for when we need it.

We also need to transfer water from the reservoir, using a pipeline, to a service reservoir at Madingley. We've thought carefully about how these elements would fit together.

Transferring water from the River Great Ouse to the reservoir

If we do use the River Great Ouse as a source of water, we would need to abstract water from the river, filter it for invasive non-native species and transfer it to the reservoir using a pipeline.

The area we've identified for the river intake and treatment facility is bigger than what is actually needed.

As we move forward, we plan to reduce the size of the site. Here's an idea of what it might look like based on the equipment we need and where it could be located within the area we've identified.

The raw water pipeline would be located within the same corridor as the pipeline needed to transfer

treated water to Cambridge Water and Anglian Water supply points. This could help us minimise construction impacts by working on two parts of the project in the same location.



Key		
1	Access road utilising existing field access off A1123	Permeable access track
2	Operational building	Woodland tree planting
3	Stormwater attenuation and wetland landscape	Solar panel
4	Admin/maintenance building	Reinforced grass surfacing
5	Hedge	Inlet pipeline
6	Arable field	Indicative outlet pipeline
		Indicative abstract infrastructure polygon
		Indicative project boundary

Indicative plan, within the identified area, for a river intake and pumping station to draw water from the River Great Ouse, near Earith.

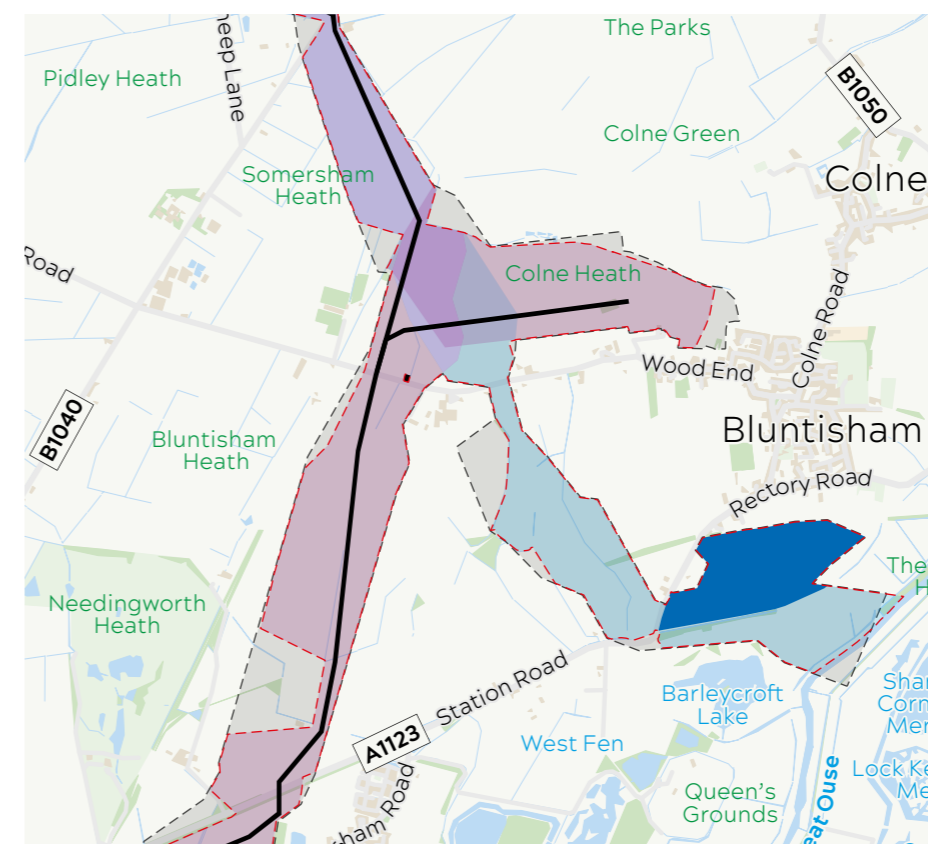
Transferring treated water to the Cambridge Water supply network

The pipeline would include a spur to provide connection to Cambridge Water's supply at Bluntisham, although we have determined that the existing Cambridge Water service reservoir has the capacity we require.

As such, there wouldn't be any above ground infrastructure needed.

The pipeline to the Cambridge Water supply point and new service reservoir at Madingley would then continue southwards.


You can find out more about this part of the project by reading pages 28-31.



An indicative route for the pipeline, along with the 75-metre working area needed for construction, based on our current engineering assessments. It also includes the location previously presented at our second phase of consultation for a service reservoir, which we've determined we no longer need to construct.

i Find out more
To learn more about the factors we've considered in developing our proposals further, read our **Design Refinement Report:** fensreservoir.co.uk/documents

“ ” Tell us what you think
We're keen to hear your comments on our proposed plans for the infrastructure we may need to draw water from this source and transfer it to the reservoir. Tell us what you think by completing our **feedback form.**



Swavesey to Madingley

Our proposals in this area include a treated water pipeline to transfer water to Cambridge Water customers via a new service reservoir at Madingley.

Treated water pipeline

Overview

The pipeline runs south of Bluntisham, via Swavesey, to the new proposed service reservoir site at Madingley.

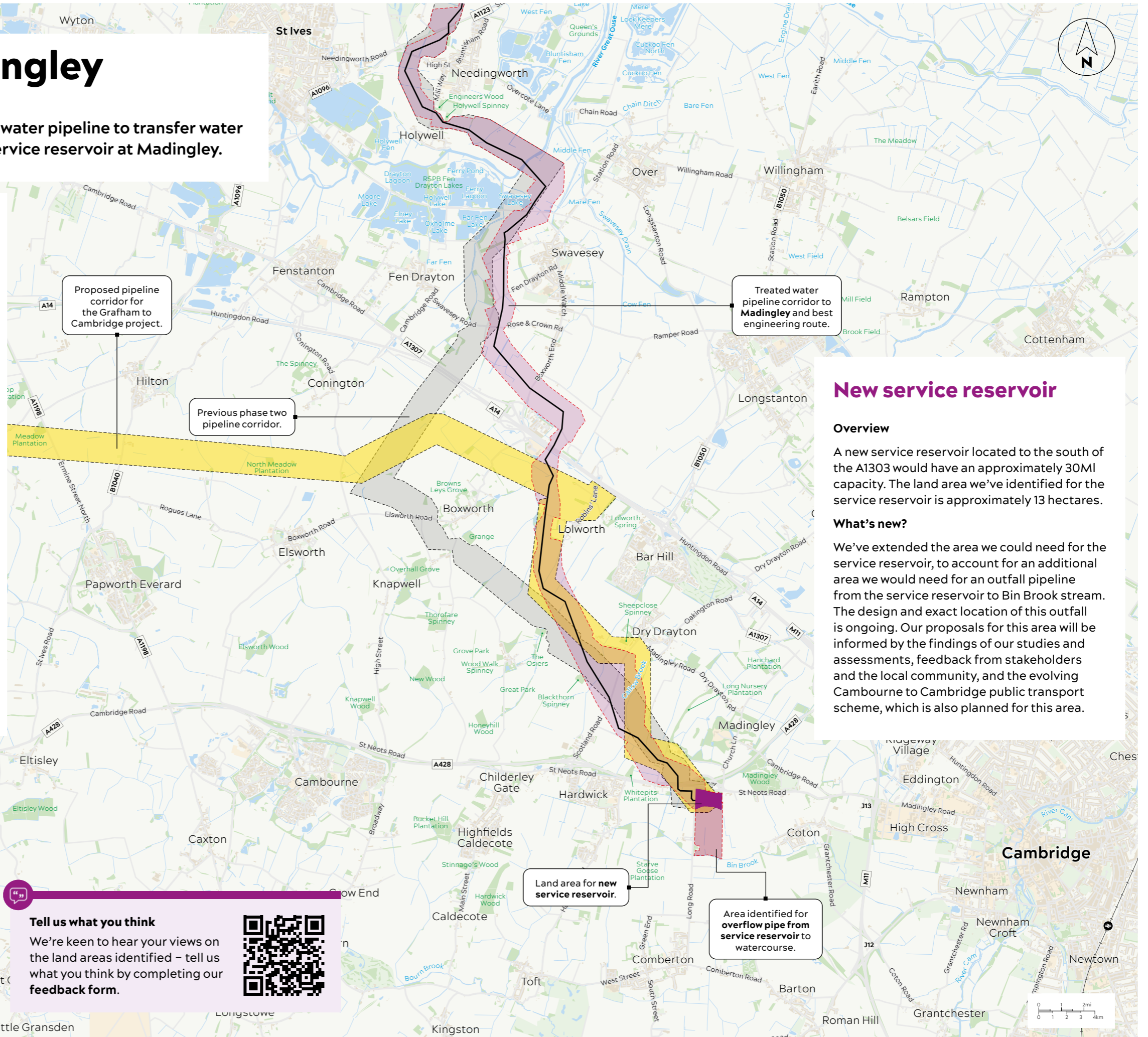
The pipeline corridor shown on this map – within which the pipeline could be located – is up to 500 metres wide.

The pipeline:

- would be approximately 35km long
- would have an indicative diameter of 0.8 to 1.2 metres

What's new?

- We've narrowed our original pipeline corridor south of Needingworth and Dry Drayton to work with existing planning applications.
- We've realigned the pipeline corridor between Holywell and Swavesey to the east to avoid existing environmental habitats.
- We've revised the pipeline corridor south of Swavesey so it aligns with another Anglian Water and Cambridge Water project – known as the Grafham to Cambridge pipeline project. The revised route also avoids heritage sites and offers improved access during construction.
- We've indicatively identified the best route for the pipe within the corridor based on engineering assessments.



New service reservoir

Overview

A new service reservoir located to the south of the A1303 would have an approximately 30MI capacity. The land area we've identified for the service reservoir is approximately 13 hectares.

What's new?

We've extended the area we could need for the service reservoir, to account for an additional area we would need for an outfall pipeline from the service reservoir to Bin Brook stream. The design and exact location of this outfall is ongoing. Our proposals for this area will be informed by the findings of our studies and assessments, feedback from stakeholders and the local community, and the evolving Cambourne to Cambridge public transport scheme, which is also planned for this area.



Find out more

To learn more about the factors we've considered in developing our proposals further, read our **Design Refinement Report:** fensreservoir.co.uk/documents



Tell us what you think

We're keen to hear your views on the land areas identified – tell us what you think by completing our **feedback form.**



What our proposals involve

The service reservoir at Madingley would be a partly buried tank that stores treated water, ready for supply to customers. It would be built close to the existing local supply network to provide water when needed.











The service reservoir

The design of the service reservoir is still being developed. We anticipate that it would be fully enclosed and made of concrete, to keep the water clean and safe to drink. It would be located within a fenced compound and include an overflow area with appropriate drainage, allowing for the safe release of water in event of needing to drain the service reservoir.

We'll be carrying out assessments, including a green belt assessment, to consider how the service reservoir could fit within the landscape, and what we can do to make sure it would be sensitive to its surroundings.

This may include:

- sculpting of earth and landscaping to provide screening
- locating the other operational features within the compound further away from properties

Key	
1	Stormwater attenuation
2	Service reservoir
3	Existing service reservoir
4	Arable field
5	Inlet from Fens WTW
6	Outlet
	Permeable access track
	Woodland tree planting
	Reinforced grass surfacing
	Proposed woodland planting
	Inlet pipe work
	Indicative outlet to connect to existing system
	Diverted outlet pipework
	Indicative service reservoir infrastructure polygon
	Security fence
	Indicative project boundary



An indicative area of land for a new service reservoir on the edge of Madingley, for storing treated water ready for supply to Cambridge Water customers.



Transferring treated water to Madingley via a pipeline

Following our phase two consultation, we identified an opportunity to align the treated water pipeline from the reservoir to Madingley, with the proposed Grafham to Cambridge pipeline project.

There is an opportunity for alignment with the southern section of the corridor, from Holywell, south of the A14, to Madingley. This means the work for both projects could be carried out in the same location, helping to reduce disruption, limit environmental impact, and improve cost efficiency.

The new corridor we're proposing also passes through areas with more favourable ground conditions. We will continue to explore opportunities for alignment between the projects, including whether opportunity for a single pipeline serving both projects could be an option.



About the Grafham to Cambridge pipeline project

The proposed reservoir in the Fens is one of many ways in which we're investing in the water security of our region. We know that this means some of the communities affected by our proposals for the reservoir and it's connecting infrastructure may also be affected by other infrastructure investments we're bringing forward.

As part of a separate and unrelated planning process, Anglian Water will at the same time be consulting on the Grafham to Cambridge pipeline project – a 70km pipeline that would bring water from wetter areas in our region to the drier areas in the south and east of the region.

Scan the QR code to find out more about this project.

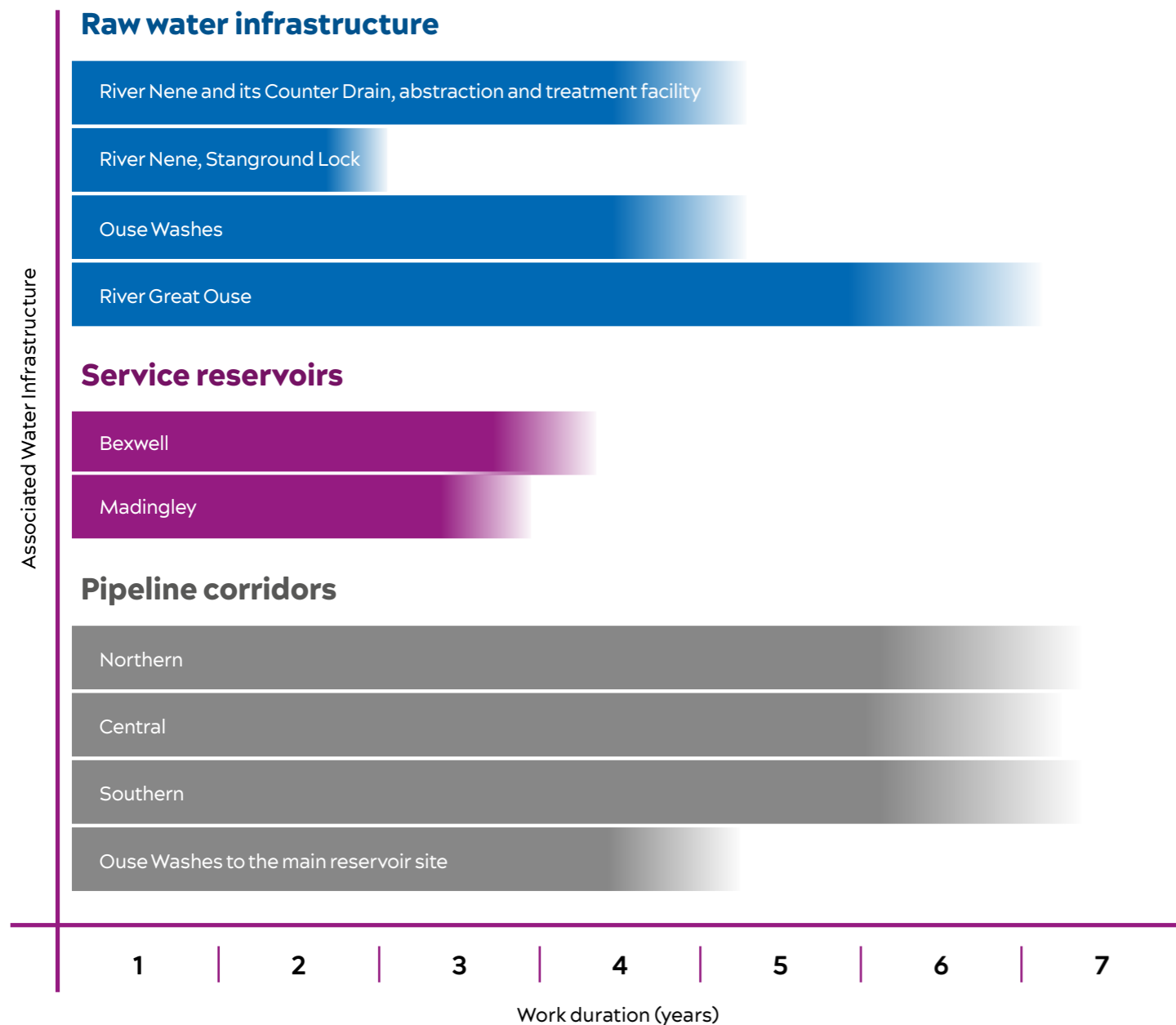


Constructing the associated water infrastructure

Our plans for constructing the associated water infrastructure are still evolving, though we now have more information about what we need to build, potential timings and how we might carry out the work in a way that's efficient and considerate of local communities and the environment.

We have carried out more technical assessments, surveys and engagement with specialist stakeholders including the local highways authority to identify when we might build each part of the project.

This timeline shows indicatively how long each piece of associated water infrastructure could take to build:



Our approach to construction

We're committed to delivering the project in the best possible way. Our **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)** is an important process to help us do this. It will help us identify effects and the ways we would manage these.

Here are some of the things we're considering in our approach to constructing the project.

Traffic effects



- Re-using as much material from the site as we can, to minimise the export of materials and associated vehicle movements as far as practical.
- Developing a construction traffic management plan in collaboration with the local highway authorities to ensure we meet our commitments. This plan will include how we intend to monitor roads during construction and our agreed approach to repairing any damage caused by our construction vehicles.
- Assessing the need for modifications to local roads at several locations to enable the local road network to accommodate our construction vehicles.
- Minimising impacts during peak periods such as school drop offs and pick-ups.
- Seeking opportunities to reduce road traffic through importing material by rail.

Carbon and the environment

- Carry out extensive surveys to observe and record wildlife activity throughout the project's construction so we can account for it properly in our plans.
- Reduce carbon emissions by using eco-friendly alternatives to diesel to power the plant where practicable.
- Relocating and creating new mitigation habitats to protect existing wildlife during construction.
- Achieve at least 10 percent biodiversity net gain.



Read more

To learn more about our approach to managing the workforce, please see **page 38** of our **main reservoir site brochure**.



Find out more

Our **Supporting Environmental Information Report** has more information about the types of things we would do to manage construction and traffic impacts.

Read the report here: fensreservoir.co.uk/documents

Community effects

- Put measures in place to control and monitor noise levels, and keep them as low as we can.
- Develop management plans to make sure we meet our commitments to managing noise, light and dust pollution, which the EIA will identify.
- Be a good neighbour by keeping our working areas and surrounding roads clean, tidy and secure.
- Keep people informed in advance about construction activity and what it means for them, including any traffic management changes.

Socio-economic opportunities

- Identify opportunities to prioritise local suppliers and workers where possible.
- Exploring a range of appropriate accommodation options to meet the needs of those working on the associated water infrastructure needed for the project.
- Exploring potential impacts, opportunities and mitigations related to food and farming, which could unlock new opportunities for the region's agriculture and food sectors.

Managing flood risk

- Carry out ground and surface water flood surveys to help us map the movement of water and potential impacts of construction.
- Put in place drainage plans and monitoring systems both before and during the main construction works.
- Develop plans to ensure we do not worsen existing flood risk.

Phase three construction and transport proposals

This map shows the arrangements we're proposing for building the project.

We'll be continuing to develop our thinking further on these arrangements as we develop our proposals further.

Road routes and access

We've identified the existing road routes that we're proposing to use during construction. These would be used by heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) to travel between the strategic road network (SRN) and the areas we need to access to build the infrastructure and pipelines.

Read pages 40-41 to find out what we've considered.

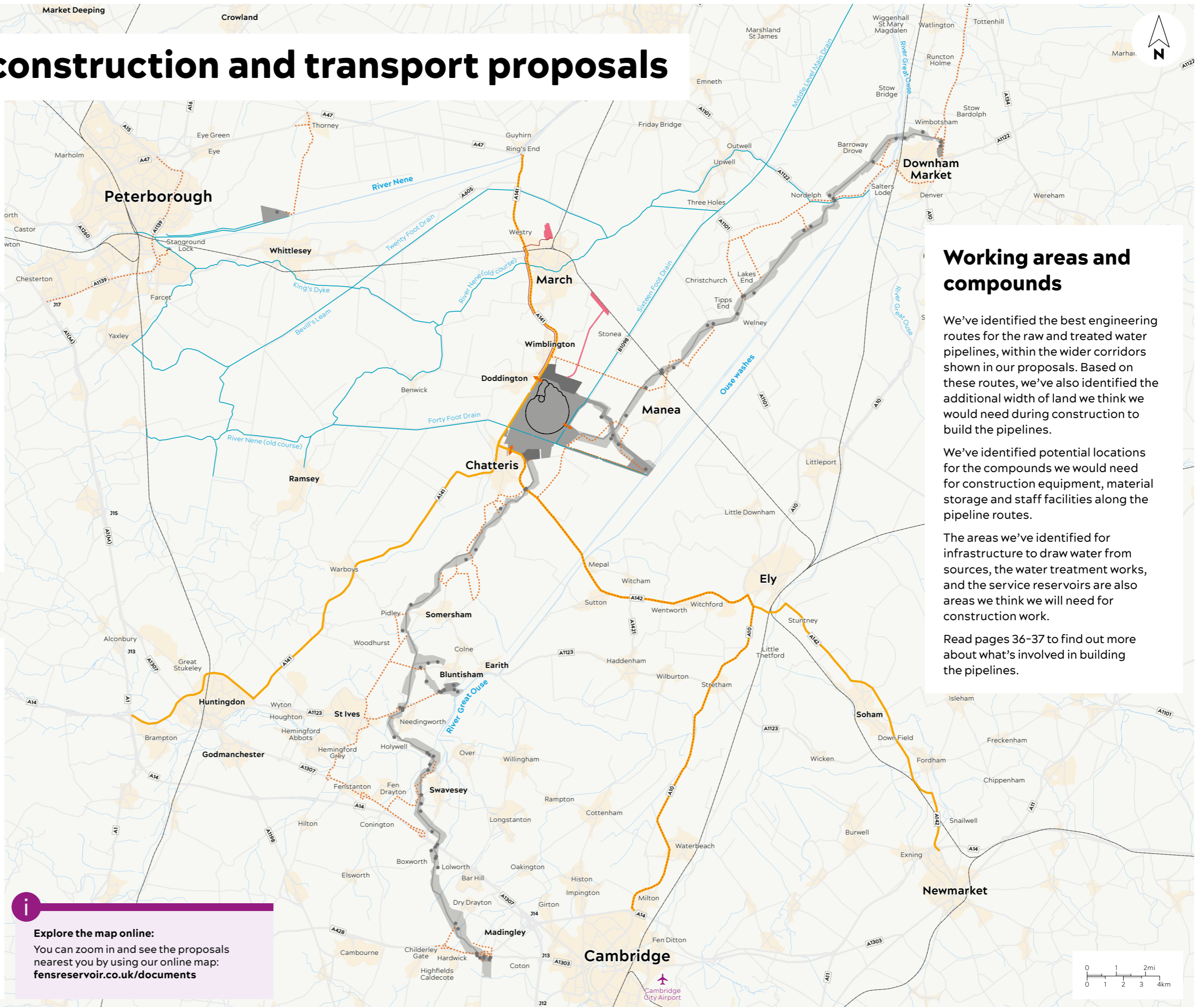
Working areas and compounds

We've identified the best engineering routes for the raw and treated water pipelines, within the wider corridors shown in our proposals. Based on these routes, we've also identified the additional width of land we think we would need during construction to build the pipelines.

We've identified potential locations for the compounds we would need for construction equipment, material storage and staff facilities along the pipeline routes.

The areas we've identified for infrastructure to draw water from sources, the water treatment works, and the service reservoirs are also areas we think we will need for construction work.

Read pages 36-37 to find out more about what's involved in building the pipelines.



Key

- Our phase three indicative project footprint
- Construction working areas and environmental mitigation (including working widths for pipeline construction, based on best engineering route)
- Indicative locations for construction equipment, staff facilities and materials storage
- Proposed locations for access to and from the reservoir
- Options being considered for railway sidings and their associated routes to the main reservoir site (for movement of construction material)
- Proposed routes for HGV construction traffic reaching the site from the strategic road network
- Proposed HGV road routes from the strategic road network to the associated water infrastructure areas
- Phase three reservoir proposals
- Existing Middle Level channels

i Explore the map online:
 You can zoom in and see the proposals nearest you by using our online map:
fensreservoir.co.uk/documents

Constructing the pipelines

We've identified the amount of land we think we'd need, within the wider pipeline corridors, to install the pipelines.

What the pipeline corridors include

The pipeline corridor is an area of land within which we would locate a pipeline. The corridors we've identified at this stage are around 500 metres wide (and narrower in places where we've identified opportunities to reduce them at this stage).

Within each corridor, we've identified a best engineering route. This route represents our current best estimate

of where the pipeline could be located, including the area of land we'd need to construct the pipeline – known as the working width. In most cases, we anticipate the working width within each corridor would be approximately 75 metres wide. However, in some areas, it may need to be wider – up to 200 metres – to accommodate larger or multiple pipelines within the same corridor.

The working width would be used for essential construction activities, including:

- storing excavated material
- constructing a haul road for vehicles to travel along the pipeline route for moving materials and equipment
- creating a safe working area
- installing surface water drainage



Image showing the construction of our Strategic Pipeline Alliance project.

There are two main construction techniques that we could use to install the pipes, depending on the location and nearby features:

Open-cut method

We would generally use an open cut method – digging trenches – to install the pipelines.

Typically, this process would involve:

- fencing off the area and establishing access routes, prior to any construction activities
- stripping the land of topsoil
- digging trenches (where there isn't existing infrastructure in the way)
- installing bedding material, which is placed at the bottom of the trench to support the pipe
- installing sections of pipe in the trench
- connecting and testing the new pipes
- reinstating the land and drainage

We would store the excavated material on site and reuse as much as possible, to help limit vehicle movements, waste and carbon emissions as much as we can.

Trenchless method

In some cases, we would use a trenchless installation method to install sections of pipe, to limit disruption to traffic and services.

One method for trenchless installation involves using a drilling machine to create a tunnel beneath infrastructure. We would use a trenchless method to install the pipelines to avoid features on the pipeline route such as:

- major roads
- railway routes
- rivers
- existing major utility lines

Once the tunnel is drilled, the pipeline is pulled through the hole, allowing us to install it without disturbing the surface above.

Considering the landscape

When the pipeline is built, we would return the land to its original condition wherever possible, and with the agreement of the landowner.

We've carefully selected and refined the pipeline corridors to avoid important environmental and historic sites, as well as urban areas. To help identify the final pipeline route, we'll be using survey data, insights from walkover exercises, land boundaries and land use information, and feedback from landowners and local people.

Reinstating the land

We're exploring the ways we could reinstate the land depending on its different features and qualities. This could include measures such as:

- replicating the natural slope and gradient of the land when we reinstate it
- protecting the quality of topsoil where it has valuable nutrients such as for agriculture, by storing it separately from other excavated material and restoring drainage systems following construction
- using trenchless techniques to install the pipelines deeper, protecting environmental features such as woodland
- limiting vegetation removal wherever possible and planting vegetation for screening while we work
- repurposing any trees and tree stumps removed during construction to support habitat creation where appropriate
- placing the pipeline in existing gaps in the hedgerow where possible, and where this is not possible retain mature trees within the hedge to protect biodiversity
- restoring construction compound areas in a way that makes sure drainage and land quality isn't affected

Public rights of way

We're also keen to ensure people can still enjoy the outdoors and would protect access to public rights of way wherever we can. This might involve:

- keeping the current alignment of public rights of way wherever possible
- boardwalk crossings over excavated trenches to maintain access during construction
- temporary route diversions, if necessary, to follow the shortest viable alternative using existing public rights of ways



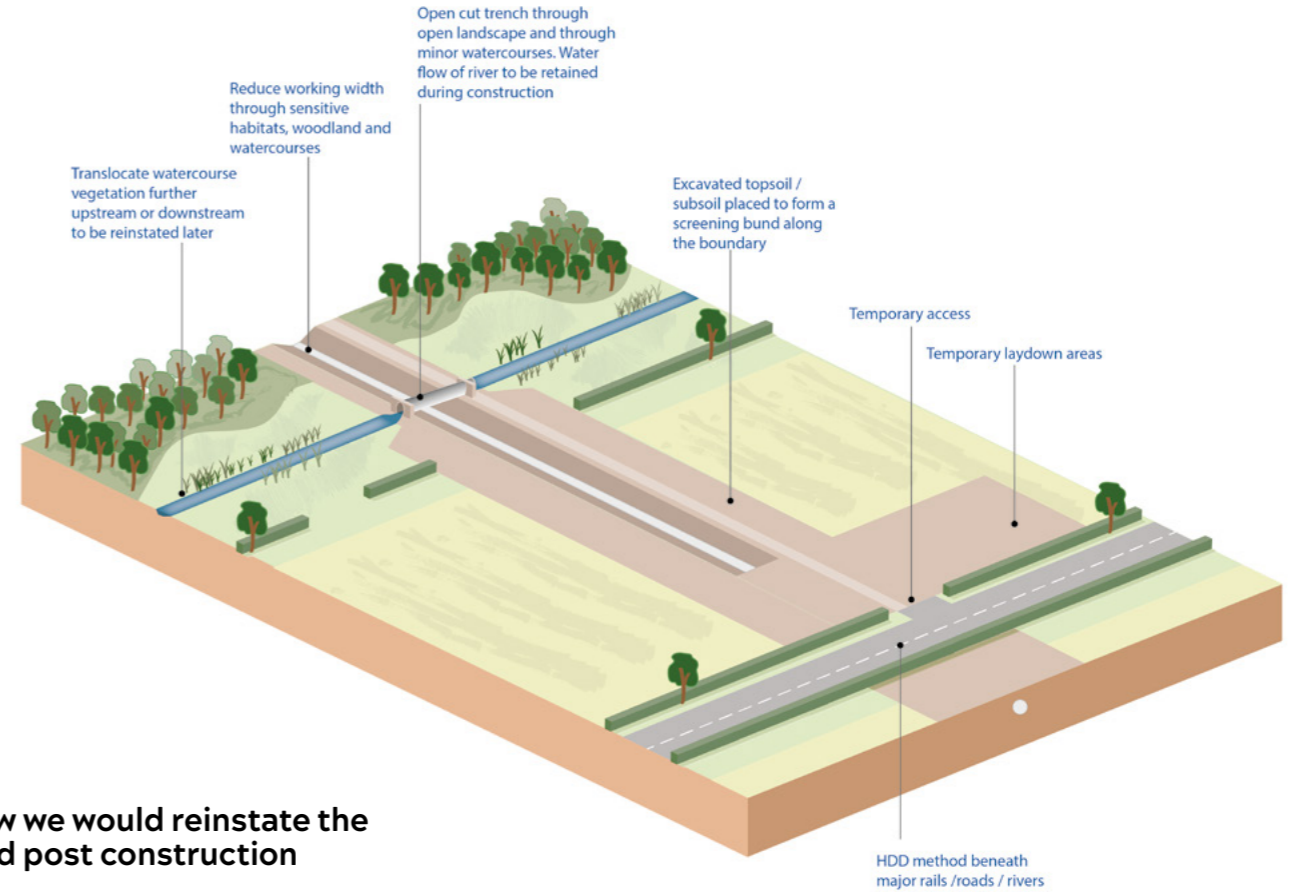
Read more
Our **Supporting Environmental Information Report** includes more information about how we'll manage impacts relating to construction.



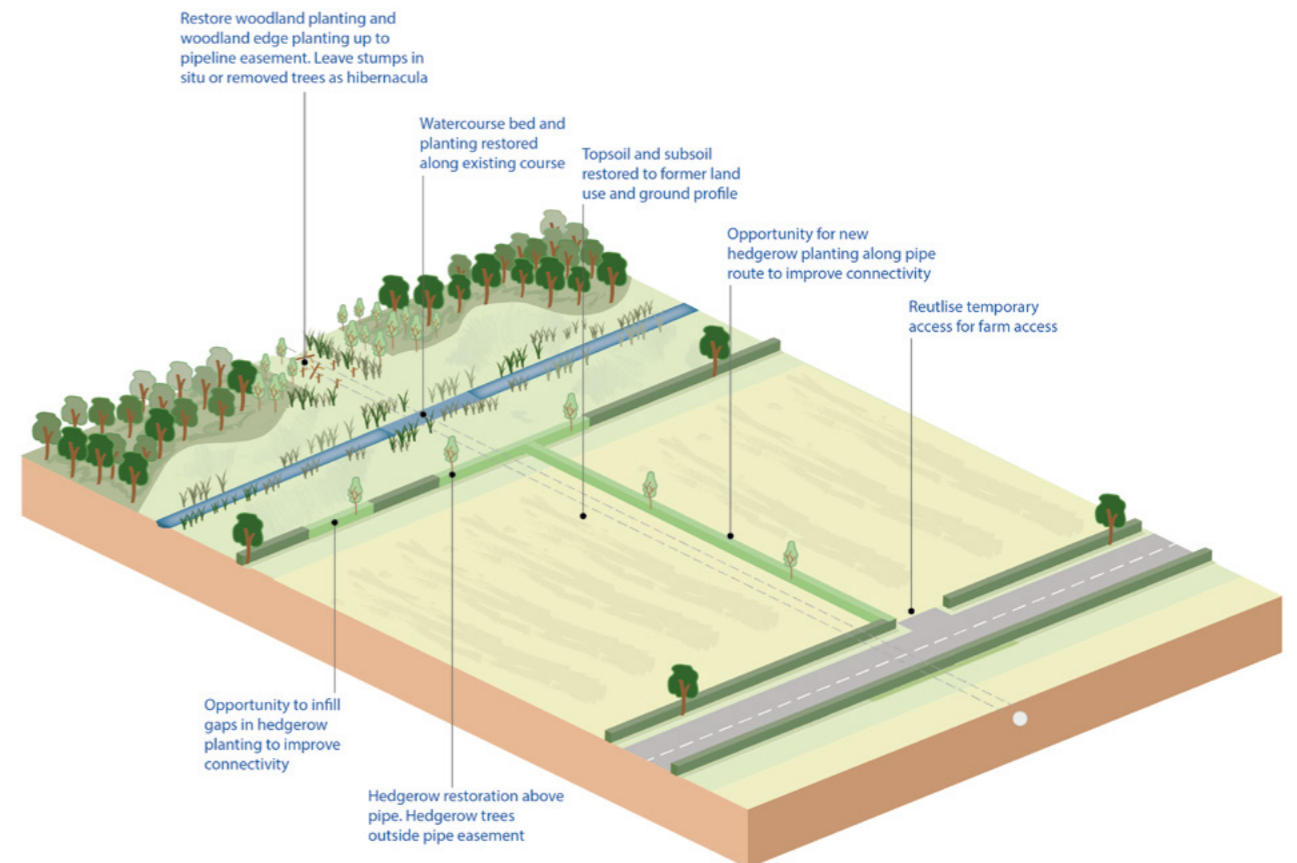
Share your insights
You know the areas we'll be working with better than anyone. Let us know your thoughts by completing our **feedback form**.



How the land would be managed during construction to support effective reinstatement afterwards



How we would reinstate the land post construction



Construction compounds and working areas

With nearly a hundred kilometres of pipeline required to transport water to and from the reservoir, we would need to build temporary construction compounds and laydown areas along the pipeline route.

To support the construction of the pipeline, we plan to build a mix of larger and smaller compound sites. The larger compounds would be located at the key infrastructure points – such as service reservoirs, pumping stations and water intake and treatment facilities – where we've allocated space for material storage. We would use smaller compounds along the pipeline route to extend the reach of these larger compounds. This would help us to better manage resources across the project.

Smaller construction sites would typically include welfare facilities for staff, offices and equipment storage areas.

Larger construction compound sites could include:

- offices
- a canteen / lunchroom
- toilets
- drying room
- tools and general storage shed / container
- a secure chemical store container
- car park
- fuel storage/refuelling point
- vehicle washing facilities
- waste skips

We would also establish laydown areas along the route. These will store at least a quarter of the materials needed for each section. This helps reduce the number of long-distance trips to collect supplies, improving efficiency and lowering the project's carbon footprint.

i **Read more**
To learn more about how we've identified locations for construction working areas, please see our **Design Refinement Report: fensreservoir.co.uk/documents**



Example of a lay down area from our Strategic Pipeline Alliance project.

Our approach to construction traffic

We're committed to exploring how we can minimise potential disruption for local communities and reduce carbon emissions where possible during construction.

We have assessed over 500 potential routes for accessing the pipeline corridors and the other land areas we could need. Our current preferred routes have been selected to help manage potential impacts on the environment and local people.

Some of the routes we've identified, especially small local roads, may require improvements such as widening or the addition of passing bays.

We are still developing our plans for this, and will present more detailed information on what these improvements could involve, and where they may be needed at our next consultation.

Managing road safety and traffic volumes

Based on the work we've done to date, heavy goods vehicle (HGV) movements would peak at around 60 movements per day to each access point identified on the map. On average, each section of pipeline would be constructed over a six to eighteen month period.

We'll be developing a construction traffic management plan which will set out how we would use roads and enforce measures to minimise impacts on local people. We hope to share more details on our plans at our next consultation.



“ **Tell us what you think**
Is there anything we should know about the roads we've identified that could help inform our construction traffic management planning? Tell us by completing our **feedback form**.

Our phase three consultation

Our phase three consultation is open from 15 October to 10 December 2025

We're committed to working with local people as the project develops and want to hear all views on our emerging proposals.

We welcome all comments on the project, but would love to hear from you specifically on:

- **our updated design proposals for the main reservoir site**, including how it features in the landscape and the features we've included for people and nature
- **our early proposals for moving materials to and from the site**, including the routes and methods we've identified
- **our plans for powering the reservoir with renewable energy** and the technologies we're exploring
- **our updated proposals for the associated water infrastructure** needed to transfer water to the reservoir from sources, treat the water and supply it to homes and businesses
- **your experience of our third phase of consultation**, including the documents we've shared on our updated proposals and any community consultation events you've attended



Have your say

Submitting your comments

You can submit feedback to us in several different ways:

Using the project website: fensreservoir.co.uk

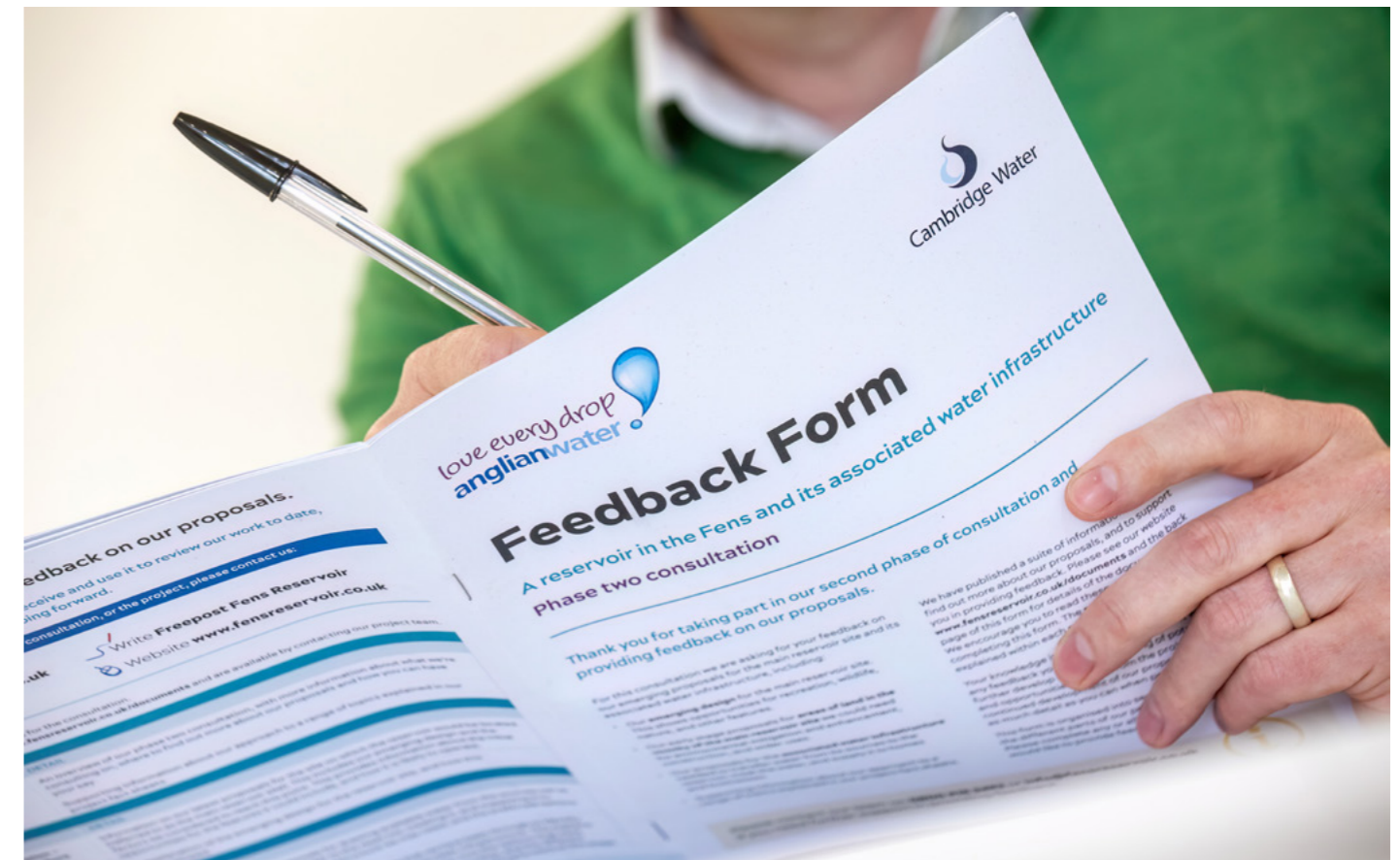
Sending written feedback to us at our freepost address: **Freepost Fens Reservoir**

Sending an email to: info@fensreservoir.co.uk

Hard copies of our consultation materials and feedback forms will be available at our consultation events or upon request.

All the feedback you share goes through a rigorous feedback analysis process. We review, record and carefully consider every comment. Your views directly inform and shape the project's evolving design.

i **Speak to the team**
 We're holding events in the local community where you can find out more about our proposals, meet the team and ask any questions you might have. Find the event schedule here: fensreservoir.co.uk/events



Please make sure you submit your feedback to us by 23:59 on 10 December.

What happens next

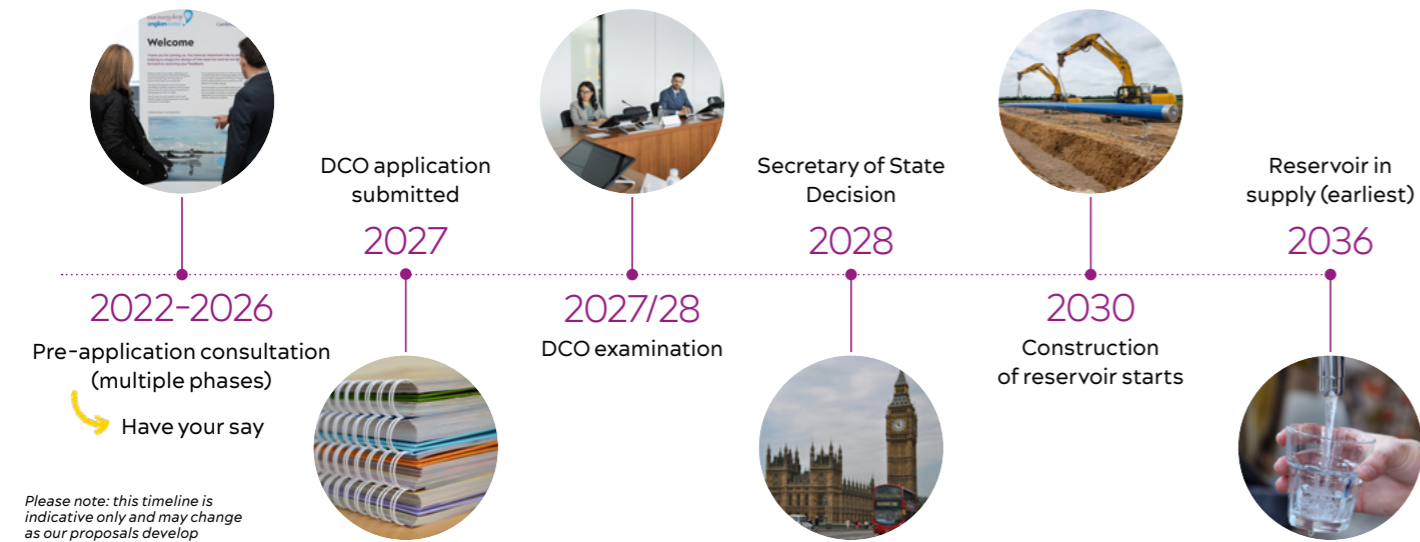
This is our third phase of consultation. Your comments will help us to develop our proposals further.

The proposed reservoir is a strategic regional asset. Due to the scale and volume of water it can hold, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has confirmed the reservoir is a project of national significance and will therefore progress through the Development Consent Order planning process which is separate from the local authority planning process.

The government agency responsible for examining NSIPs is the Planning Inspectorate. Once accepted by the Planning Inspectorate, a panel of inspectors would be appointed who would then examine the application before making a recommendation to the Secretary of State as to whether the project should be granted development consent. It is the Secretary of State that makes the final decision.

i **Find out more**
 You can read more about the development consent process and our approach to our third phase of consultation by reading the document: **phase three consultation – approach to community consultation.**
fensreservoir.co.uk/documents

The project is currently in its pre-application phase. In this phase, we're developing the project with the community and stakeholders and based on the findings of our own assessment and surveys.



Environmental Impact Assessment

We're progressing our Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) work to help us identify and assess the likely significant effects of our proposals and further develop our plans for minimising and mitigating these. This process is a crucial part of the consenting process and will help us make design decisions informed by what we need to do to avoid or reduce impacts.

The scope of this assessment has been agreed with the Planning Inspectorate, in consultation with key environmental bodies including the Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England.

The findings of our EIA work will be consulted on in a future consultation, as part of our Preliminary Environmental Information Report and presented in an Environmental

Statement which will accompany the project's application for consent. Consultation and engagement are an important part of the EIA and the wider Development Consent Order process. Throughout the EIA, we'll be seeking feedback from consultees on key environmental topics, our proposed methodology, and design ideas.

A guide to our consultation materials

We've published a series of documents and resources as part of our phase three consultation to help people understand our latest proposals.

INFORMATION BROCHURES	
Phase three consultation – main reservoir site proposals	Information on our phase three design proposals for the main reservoir site, including potential features and opportunities for recreation and the environment. This brochure also outlines the operation of the reservoir and our approach to managing traffic and transport, construction, and power and renewable energy.
Phase three consultation – associated water infrastructure proposals	Information on our proposals for the associated water infrastructure needed to transfer water to and from the reservoir and in to supply This includes information on potential locations for the infrastructure, emerging design proposals, and our approach to construction.
SUPPORTING TECHNICAL INFORMATION	
Supporting Environmental Information Report	This report explains what we already know about the environment in relation to our proposals and what we're doing to identify and assess any impacts, as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment process. It also outlines the types of solutions we could implement to manage these impacts during construction and operation.
Design Refinement Report	This report explains in more technical detail the work we've done to develop our proposals, between our last phase of consultation and now. It includes information about the decisions we've made as part of the design proposal journey for both the main reservoir site and associated water infrastructure.
Phase three consultation – approach to community consultation	This document sets out how we are carrying out our phase three consultation, including who we will consult, how we will publicise the consultation, how people will be able to take part and how feedback can be provided.

i **Access these documents**
 Scan the QR code below with your phone's camera or visit our website at fensreservoir.co.uk/documents to view these documents.

For illustrative purposes only.



Get in touch

You can contact the project team by:

 Email info@fensreservoir.co.uk

 Freephone **0800 915 2492**

 Write **Freepost Fens Reservoir**

 Website fensreservoir.co.uk